

Annual Report to OLAW

Institution: Texas Tech University
Assurance Number: A3629-01
Reporting Period: January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

This Institution's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), through the Institutional Official, provides this annual report to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW).

I. Program Changes *[Select A or B]*

- ☐ A. There have been **no changes** in this Institution's program for animal care and use as described in the Assurance. *[Skip to Item II.]*
- ☒ B. Change(s) in this Institution's program for animal care and use as described in the Assurance have occurred during this reporting period. *(FAQ 6)*

Select all that apply:

- ☐ This Institution's AAALAC accreditation status has changed *(PHS Policy IV.A.2.)*.
- ☐ AAALAC Accredited – Category 1
- ☐ Non-Accredited – Category 2
- ☒ This Institution's program for animal care and use has changed *(PHS Policy IV.A.1.a-i.)*. *[Attach a full description of the changes.]*
- ☐ The individual designated by this institution as the Institutional Official has changed. *[Provide name, title(s), address, e-mail, phone, and fax numbers in Item V.]*
- ☒ The membership of this Institution's IACUC has changed. *[Provide current roster of members in Item VI.]*

II. Semiannual Evaluations

This IACUC has conducted semiannual evaluations of the institution's program and inspections of the institution's facilities (including satellite facilities) on the dates below. Reports of the evaluations and inspections have been submitted to the Institutional Official. The reports include any IACUC-approved departures from the *Guide* with a reason for each departure, any deficiencies (significant or minor) that were identified, and a plan and schedule for correction of each deficiency. *[Do not provide semiannual reports unless they include a minority view.]*

A. Program Evaluations

[Two dates (month/day/year) must be provided to satisfy the PHS Policy requirement that evaluations be done at 6 month intervals. If the IACUC conducted more than 2 evaluations of the program during the reporting period, please attach a list showing the dates.]

Date 1: April 19, 2019	Date 2: October 4, 2019
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B. Facility Inspections

[Two dates (month/day/year) must be provided to satisfy the PHS Policy requirement that facility inspections be done at 6 month intervals. If the IACUC conducted more than 2 inspections of each site during the reporting period, please attach a list showing the dates.]

Date 1: April 18-19, 2019

Date 2: October 3-4, 2019

III. Minority Views [Select A or B]

- ☒ A. There were no minority views during this reporting cycle.
- ☐ B. Any minority views submitted by members of the IACUC regarding reports filed under PHS Policy IV.F. for this reporting cycle are attached.

IV. Signatures

IACUC Chairperson	Institutional Official
Name: Dr. Phil Smith	Name: Dr. Joseph Heppert
Signature: (b) (6)	Signature: (b) (6)
Date: 1/28/20	Date: 1/28/20

V. Change in Institutional Official

Name: Joseph Heppert	
Title: Institutional Official, Vice President for Research & Innovation	Degree/Credential: BS, Ph.D.
Name of Institution: Texas Tech University	
Address: [street, city, state, zip code] Box 42191 Lubbock, TX 79409	
E-mail: joseph.heppert@ttu.edu	
Phone: (b) (6)	Fax: (b) (6)
NOTE:	

VI. Change in IACUC Membership [Current roster]

Institution: Texas Tech University			
IACUC Contact Information			
Address: [street, city, state, zip code]			
Box 43132, Lubbock, TX 79409			
E-mail: iacuc@ttu.edu			
Phone: (b) (6)		Fax: (b) (6)	
IACUC Chairperson			
Name: Phil Smith			
Title: Associate Professor		Degree/Credentials: BS, Ph.D.	
PHS Policy Membership Requirements***:			
IACUC Roster [Provide below or attach]			
Name of Member/ Code*	Degree/ Credential	Position Title/ Occupational Background**	PHS Policy Membership Requirements***
Tiffanie Brooks	DVM, MS, DACLAM	Attending Veterinarian	Veterinarian
(b) (6)			Scientist
			Scientist
			Member
			Community Member
			Nonscientist/Alternate
			Community Member/Alternate
			Scientist
			Veterinarian
			Scientist/Vice Chair
			Veterinarian/Alternate
			Scientist
			Scientist
			Scientist
			Non-Scientist
			Scientist
			Scientist/Alternate
			Environmental Health & Safety/Alternate

(b) (6)	
	Scientist
	Community Member/Alternate
	Environmental Health & Safety
	Scientist/Alternate
	Scientist/Alternate
	Scientist/Alternate

* Names of members, other than the chairperson and veterinarian, may be represented by a number or symbol in this report to OLAW. Sufficient information to determine that all appointees are appropriately qualified must be provided and the identity of each member must be readily ascertainable by the institution and available to authorized OLAW or other PHS representatives upon request.

** List specific position titles for all members, including nonaffiliated (e.g., banker, teacher, volunteer fireman; not "community member" or "retired").

*** PHS Policy Membership Requirements:

<i>Veterinarian</i>	veterinarian with training or experience in laboratory animal science and medicine or in the use of the species at the institution, who has direct or delegated program authority and responsibility for activities involving animals at the institution.
<i>Scientist</i>	practicing scientist experienced in research involving animals.
<i>Nonscientist</i>	member whose primary concerns are in a nonscientific area (for example, ethicist, lawyer, member of the clergy).
<i>Nonaffiliated</i>	individual who is not affiliated with the institution in any way other than as a member of the IACUC, and is not a member of the immediate family of a person who is affiliated with the institution. This member is expected to represent general community interests in the proper care and use of animals and should not be a laboratory animal user. A consulting veterinarian may not be considered nonaffiliated.

[Note: all members must be appointed by the CEO (or individual with specific written delegation to appoint members) and must be voting members. Non-voting members and alternate members must be so identified.]

Changes to Medical Evaluation and Preventative Medicine

IACUC

Occ-Med (provider)

IACUC Coordinator

Environmental Health and Safety (funding):

- Our Occupational Health and Safety Program covers all individuals that work with animals. This includes faculty, staff, students, physical plant, and all other personnel that are listed on a protocol but are not affiliated with the university.
- All individuals must enroll in the Occupational Health and Safety program using the OH&S Web-based Risk Assessment Program (WRAP). It is designed to evaluate risks to animal users before initiation of animal use activities and again on a yearly basis. The web link for WRAP is:

https://ttuovpr.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0STb671HkbdCOP3. WRAP

assesses each individual animal user's risk specific to proposed animal use activities. Additionally, WRAP provides animal users with species-specific zoonoses, allergy, and physical hazard information.

- All University animal users are afforded the opportunity to consult the occupational medicine service provider (Occ-Med). Individuals working on PHS funded projects, including animal care staff, must complete a health history form, which is then evaluated by Occ-Med, our Occupational Health provider. The physician will determine whether further evaluation is required based on the individual's risks. The physician returns a checklist form back to the IACUC coordinator ensuring that the health history was completed. The animal user is then cleared to work with animals.
- Non-University personnel are provided their risk assessment and required to follow up with their institutional occupational health care services to determine their fitness to work. A signed release and indemnification form from the individual must be provided to the IACUC coordinator before animal work can proceed. This will be valid until the end of the protocol.
- Hazard analysis and risk assessment of our animal use program aids in identification of individuals that would be categorized as high health risk. This includes individuals that are pregnant or plan to become pregnant within the next year, are immunocompromised, have moderate to severe allergies, and/or have moderate to severe asthma. Individuals working on PHS funded projects, including animal care staff, must complete a health history form which is then evaluated by Occ-Med, our Occupational Health provider. The physician will determine whether further evaluation is required based on the individual's risks. A form is then filled out by the physician and is returned to the IACUC coordinator, Environmental Health and Safety, and the individual's supervisor. This ensures that animal users working on PHS funded projects complete the health history.
- We make available to all university personnel that work with animals a tetanus vaccination and pre-exposure prophylaxis. This includes all employees that work with animals. Animal users would also go to Occ-Med in the event they should need treatment for bites, scratches, illness or injury. WRAP also identifies individual animal users who, by reason of personal health status or heightened animal activity risk factors, are strongly encouraged to consult the occupational medicine service provider. Medical records of individuals (including evaluations, immunizations, etc.) who choose to consult with the occupational medicine provider are maintained by the occupational medicine provider. We do not require all personnel to receive an assessment from Occ-Med, but have this program in place for anyone that requests a qualified occupational health medical evaluation. However, we do require all PHS funded University users, including animal care staff, to complete a health history form to be evaluated by the Occupational Health provider. Occ-med and Environmental Health and Safety both maintain the records on individuals that utilize their

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- healthcare team, and the services each person receives. Due to HIPAA laws, the IACUC office does not keep any record of medical evaluations for any individual.
- All animal handlers, which includes all employees who work with animals, are required to complete the open enrollment of WRAP, and re-enrollment is required annually. The WRAP identifies at-risk animal users (pregnant or plan to become pregnant within the next year; have an immunocompromised system; have moderate to severe allergies; have moderate to severe asthma) and provides species-specific precautions intended to prevent exposure to potentially hazardous agents, tissues, chemicals/toxins, or situations.
 - All animal users are informed that in the event their health status changes, and especially if they transition into a high-risk category they should consult their respective occupational health programs. Guidelines and zoonotic information are outlined for each species, along with appropriate PPE, importance of good personal hygiene, and other hazards that could be in their work environment. Facility personnel and PIs train personnel on PPE and equipment. University students and employees working on PHS funded projects, including animal care staff, must complete a health history form, which is then evaluated by Occ-Med, our Occupational Health provider. The physician will determine whether further evaluation is required based on the individual's risks. Personnel that are pregnant, have allergies or are immunocompromised will be evaluated and provided guidance to prevent further illness. The physician returns a checklist form back to the IACUC office, Environmental Health and Safety and the individuals supervisor ensuring that the health history was completed. The animal user is then cleared to work with animals.
 - All individuals working with animals are required to receive a tetanus vaccination (that can be documented) every 10 years. (IACUC Policy 23)
 - Individuals working with animals that are high risk carriers of rabies and are not wearing appropriate PPE to mitigate their risk are required to receive the pre-exposure rabies vaccination series. Additionally, these individuals must have their titer checked every two years. (IACUC Policy 23)
 - Species-specific SOPs are available in the IACUC office to inform and protect animal users involved with these species.

Changes to Facilities, Equipment and Monitoring (New Facility)

Experimental Sciences Building II has a 11501 sqft animal facility. This facility has three separate suites for animal work (ABSL II, conventional, barrier) and a quarantine room. All suites have a PPE entrance and exit rooms. There are two animal holding rooms, two procedure/holding rooms, one necropsy room, and one imaging room within the ABSL II suite. There is a designated necropsy table in the necropsy room and there are portable biosafety cabinets in all ABSL II animal holding and procedure areas. There are two animal holding rooms, two procedure/holding rooms, one necropsy/procedure room, and one surgery/procedure room within the conventional suite. There are animal transfer stations in all animal holding rooms and a designated necropsy table in the necropsy room. There are two animal holding rooms and one procedure holding room in the barrier suite. All animal holding rooms have transfer stations within the barrier suite. The quarantine room has a portable biosafety cabinet. Individually ventilated caging systems are used for rodents and ABSL II ferrets. Automatic watering is available throughout the animal facility but only used in the conventional spaces. All floors, walls and ceilings are impervious to moisture. The entire facility is on a single pass air ventilation system. There are locker rooms for changing and showering. There are two pass through bulk autoclaves: one in barrier and one in the PPE exit between the conventional and ABSL II suite. There is a dirty side wash room with a pass through rack washer, a cage and bottle washer, and a bedding dump station. There is a clean side wash room with a bedding dispensing station and a water bottle filling station.

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